

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 90, 91, and 92.

Please amend claims 78 and 79 as follows:

78. **(Amended)** A method of administering a thyroid hormone to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of the thyroid hormone which has not been processed employing high compression.

79. **(Amended)** A method for administering levothyroxine to a patient comprising providing a unit dose of levothyroxine which has not been processed employing high compression.

90. **(New)** A drug dosage form comprising a thyroid hormone and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient prepared under conditions of low compression, the pharmaceutically acceptable excipient comprising up to 10 weight percent of residual moisture, wherein the drug dosage form is prepared under compression pressures that avoid the exacerbation of moisture induced degradation of thyroid hormone caused by the residual moisture.

91. **(New)** The drug dosage form of claim 90 wherein the drug dosage form is a tablet.

92. **(New)** The drug dosage form of claim 90 wherein the excipient comprises particles having an interior bulk and an outer surface, and a substantial portion of the residual moisture does not migrate from the interior bulk of the particles of the excipient to the outer surface of the particles of the excipient during preparation of the drug dosage form.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 and 78-79 were initially pending. Claims 78 and 79 have been amended. New claims 90, 91, and 92 have been added. No new matter has been added.

Applicants have discovered that preparing a dosage form of thyroid hormone *under conditions of low compression* produces a dosage form that is less susceptible to undesirable moisture induced degradation compared to dosage forms prepared using high compression techniques. Applicants recite claims drawn to a drug dosage form comprising a thyroid hormone and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient *prepared under conditions of low compression*. Conditions of "low compression" are defined by the Applicant as pressures that avoid the exacerbation of moisture induced degradation of drugs that are susceptible to such